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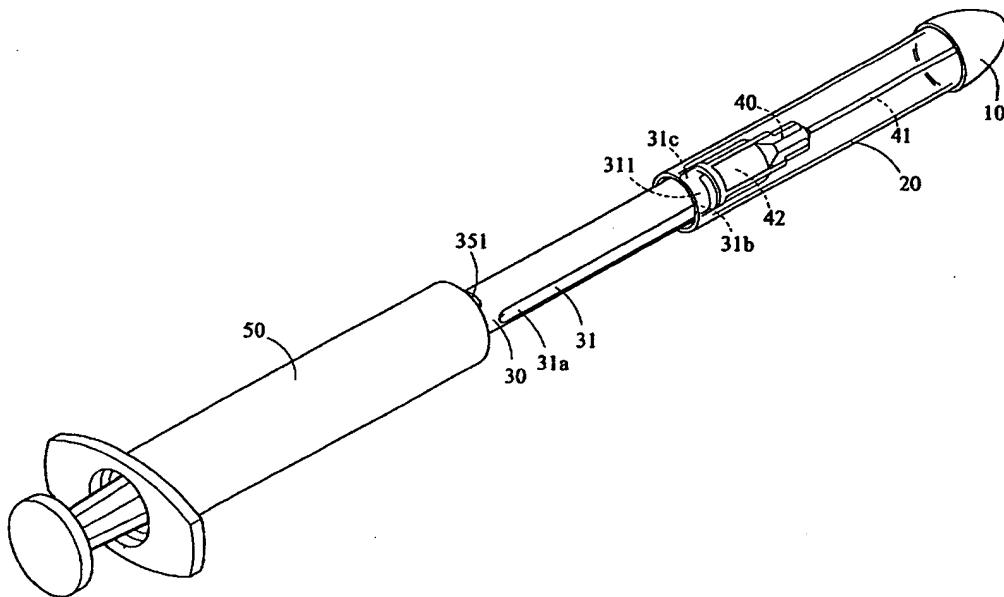
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(54) Title: SAFETY SYRINGE



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(57) Abstract: A safety syringe (fig. 1) comprising a sleeve (20); a hollow barrel (30) including a front nose (33); a needle (40); and a plunger (50) snugly fitted within and slideable through the barrel (30). After use, the plunger (50) may be pulled to cause the barrel (30) to slide rearward until the needle (40) is received in the sleeve (20) again, thereby preventing a medical worker from being contaminated by microorganisms or blood on needle (20) by being accidentally pricked.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/16567

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61M 5/32
US CL : 604/197

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 604/197, 192, 194-196, 198, 218, 263

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,498,243 A (VALLELUNGA et al) 12 March 1996, see entire patent.	1-8
A	US 5,795,336 A (ROMANO et al) 18 August 1998, see entire patent.	1-8
A	US 5,290,255 A (VALLELUNGA et al) 1 March 1994, see entire patent.	1-8
A	US 5,232,457 A (GRIM) 3 August 1993, see entire patent.	1-8
A	US 5,019,051 A (HAKE) 28 May 1991, see entire patent.	1-8
A	US 3,487,834 A (SMITH, JR. et al) 6 January 1970, see entire patent.	1-8

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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